

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATIC DOCUMENT
ELECTRONIC VERSIONING SYSTEM
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 The present invention provides a method and apparatus for automatic electronic document versioning system. One embodiment of the present invention automatically and permanently saves information about the changes made between successive document states. Thus, every previous document state is retrievable. Another embodiment provides an interface for retrieving previous document states. A set of
10 potentially memorable events are arranged in a timeline and used to identify certain previous document states. In one embodiment, closing a document is a memorable event used to identify a document state. In another embodiment, copying or synchronizing the document to another device is a memorable event used to identify a document state. In yet another embodiment, attaching the document to an electronic mail message is a
15 memorable event used to identify a document state. In yet another embodiment, a user explicitly requesting a document state be saved as memorable is a memorable event used to identify a document state. In yet another embodiment, the document remaining unchanged for a significant period of time is a memorable event used to identify a document state. In one embodiment of the present invention, a previous document state
20 is retrieved through committing a series of undos. In another embodiment, a previous document state is retrieved by selecting a document state associated with a memorable event on a timeline. In yet another embodiment, a previous state is retrieved by a combination of committing a series of undos and selecting a document state associated with a memorable event on a timeline.

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